

Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Demonstrations in Marseille, France on October 7, 2014

October 7, 2014

The U.S. Consulate General in Marseille informs U.S. citizens that protestors are planning a demonstration in front of the U.S. Consulate General beginning at 2:00pm on Tuesday, October 7. The size of the group is unknown. The consulate closed at 2:00 pm and U.S. citizens are advised to avoid the area of the consulate during the demonstration. It is anticipated that the consulate will open for normal business at 09:00am on Wednesday, October 8.

We strongly encourage U.S. citizens to maintain a high level of vigilance, be aware of local events, and take the appropriate steps to bolster their personal security. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. U.S. citizens are therefore urged to avoid demonstrations, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling or residing in France enroll in the Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) at www.Travel.state.gov. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State Department's website, where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the Country Specific Information for France. For additional information, refer to the "Traveler's Checklist" on the State Department's website. Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on Twitter and Facebook to have travel information at your fingertips.

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